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NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
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Subject: Wolfgang SPARKLER

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1. Wolfgang SPARKLER, son of Enrico (deceased) and of Elena HAMPE, born in Erfurt on 18 January 1907, German citizen. He was Counselor of Legation, Third Class, in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Third German Reich and was attached to the German Legation in Rome for social problems from 1 February 1938 until 1 September 1943 at the dependence of the Ministry of Labor.
2. In May 1949 he asked the Italian authorities for permission to sojourn in Italy for three months. At that time he stated that he had left Germany to escape Russian persecution and that he had been in Italy since September 1948 without an entry visa. In addition, according to his own statement, he was then attempting to emigrate to Argentina and was residing at 4 Via Lima, Rome. As a result, he obtained an initial sojourn permit which was then renewed on numerous occasions from July 1949 on the basis of statements by the L.E.O. firm (chemical and pharmaceutical industry) that SPARKLER was in its employ as a translator of technical and scientific publications.
3. In June 1949 SPARKLER's wife, Ildegard KERRM, daughter of Paul, born in Potsdam, on 19 December 1909, and their two year old son, Michele, joined him in Rome. They asserted that they had entered Italy clandestinely across the border at the Brenner Pass. Both the wife and son also obtained sojourn permits.
4. After his wife and son arrived, SPARKLER moved to 26 Via Cividio, then to 27 Viale dell'Universita, then to 4 Via Yser, and then to 11 Via Schiaparelli, where he presently resides. In October 1951, the SPARKLER family was joined in Rome by their daughter, Cristina, born in Berlin in 1936, the last member of the family to leave Germany.
5. SPARKLER rose rapidly in the L.E.O. firm, becoming a person of trust of Count Giovanni ARDENISE, who appointed him chief of the foreign department of the firm. In this latter capacity, SPARKLER accompanied ARDENISE on various trips abroad and obtained numerous Italian re-entry visas as well as foreigner's identity certificates, which he returned in June 1951, when he obtained a new and regular passport from the Consulate of the German Federal Republic in Rome. In February 1952 the journalist STERN, in his articles regarding Martin BORMANN's alleged presence in Rome, stated that SPARKLER had acted as intermediary in the episode. SPARKLER subsequently had his denial of this assertion published in the German newspaper Telegraf.

Files: C

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